

The Session of _____ Presbyterian Church protests the recent ratification of Amendment 14F which changed the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s definition of marriage so that same-sex weddings may be conducted by PCUSA pastors and in PCUSA churches.

Whereas this action is contrary to the plain meaning of the Scriptures of both the Old and the New Testaments,

Whereas this action is contrary to the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and therefore contrary to our mutually agreed upon ordination standards,

Whereas this action sets our denomination at odds with the overwhelming majority of Christians in the world today,

Whereas this action is an accommodation to a cultural trend that is contrary to God's revealed will, and

Whereas we will each stand one day before the holy God and held to account for our submitted obedience to God's Word, God's Son and God's will,

We hereby repudiate the actions of the 221st General Assembly and the subsequent ratification of the amendment by a majority of presbyteries in approving of same-sex marriage.

This resolution shall serve as notice that the duly elected and installed leadership of

_____, hereby resolves that our local church will continue to maintain our historic understanding of biblical marriage as being between one man and one woman and will not authorize the use of our church property for any marriage, wedding or blessing services outside of that understanding. We have adopted a policy to this effect and this position is taken regardless of any future action that might be taken by appropriate state or national civil authorities.

With deep respect to brothers and sisters in Christ who may disagree with our position,

_____ Church will continue to hold to the conviction that Scripture conveys the principle that God created us male and female on purpose and for a purpose. God declared that the male+female image bearer design was "good" and we are not in a position to redefine what God has clearly defined.

That said, we acknowledge that each of us and all of us are sinners who stand on level ground with each other at the foot of the cross. We take both parts of the Great Commandment with equal seriousness and even as we desire to God in obedience to His Word, we also desire to love our neighbors as ourselves.

It grieves us that many people have been ostracized, judged, excluded and rejected by Christians over many decades for many reasons. So, while we hold to our understanding of orthodoxy in our teachings and policies, we hold with equal passion a commitment to radically love others in the name of Christ and to make this church a place of hospitality for all who want to live into the redeemed and transformed life offered in Jesus Christ.

We request that our resolution be included in the formal record of correspondence at the next meeting of the presbytery. If the presbytery requires additional information about the approval of Amendment 14F, we look forward to the opportunity to address the presbytery at its next meeting about this matter.

Respectfully submitted by the members of the

Session of _____ Presbyterian Church

Clerk: _____ Date: _____

Signature page for Session members:

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